



The Gorilla Gazette

Volume 2004
Issue 38

September 23

The Embassy will be closed on Friday, October 1, 2004 in honor of Rwanda's Patriot Day.

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Rwanda – An Agrarian Snapshot

Driving south from Ruhengeri recently, I spied a group of Rwandan farmers out in their field toiling away at planting this season's crop. Having some time available, and with the assistance of an able translator, I pulled off the road and decided to visit with the farmers and see how things were going.

This small group of farmers turned out to be a family, with an elderly woman, perhaps in her late sixties, in charge. We'll call her Donatil. She seemed both surprised and pleased that this *muzungu* would muddy his shoes to come over for a visit. Shaking her hand I felt the toughness of those hands, now somewhat arthritically deformed from working Rwanda's fields for the past sixty-plus years. Her eyes were friendly, but already showed the cataracts that belied her years of work under the sun.



Working with Donatil were her two sons, their wives, and one teenage grandson. Along the banks of a small creek the six toiled away at a one-hectare (2.2 acres) plot. From this soil they feed about fifteen people, with another one on the way, as one of the wives present looked to be about eight months pregnant.

Rwanda – An Agrarian Snapshot continued:



This planting season worries Donatil and her family. The rains are late and they have no fertilizer. For this season they are planting potatoes, corn, and sorghum, all of which they plan to use solely to feed their family. They also grow bananas and sugarcane as a very modest cash crop. When asked what they normally buy with their money, they stated "salt and soap."

The group plants two crops each year, the first one in September and the second in March. In March they hope to plant beans. Nearly all of their diet is in the above-mentioned foods: corn, potatoes, beans, bananas, sugarcane, and sorghum - the last item is used to make porridge.



Sorghum

"How is life for you these days?" I asked. "Not good," they replied. In their opinion, they appreciate what the government is doing to keep the country safe and secure but they also wish the government would do more for them than just take care of those with AIDS by giving out free medication. Seeds are expensive and fertilizer is needed.



Sugarcane

When asked what they thought of the United States, Donatil's second son said, "We really don't know much about what goes on outside of our daily life. We simply have too many other things to keep us busy." They added that soldiers, police or other government officials do not bother them in their daily work. Other than some petty thefts from their crops when the harvest time comes, they stated that life for them is very safe.

All of Donatil's grandchildren go to primary school. Some other village children do not, one of Donatil's sons said, because "they cannot afford the required school clothes." When asked about medical care and water, they all agreed that medical care was available about five kilometers away on a pay-as-you-go basis. Water is nearby too, but they have to carry it 1.5 kilometers, as their village does not have a well.

Wrapping up the visit, I could tell that the delayed rains have these proud people worried. With over 90% of Rwandans involved in subsistence farming, each crop is very important for basic life support. Donatil and her family remain close to the land and appreciate all the help they get, whether it is rain from the sky or help from others.

~ David Kay

Bushara Island



Many of us consider this to be the best week-end get away from Kigali. It is just over the border of Uganda, near the town of Kabale. Located on Lake Bunyoni, there is secure parking and a motorboat that will take you in 10 minutes to the island. Once there, you will be escorted to the hilltop Swallows Restaurant and served a drink before you are led to your luxury tent. There are larger and smaller tents. The smallest have two single beds. On request, they bring hot water to your tent side shower at no extra cost.



Activities include swimming (although the water is colder than Lake Kivu), bird watching, sailing, dugout canoeing, volleyball, or walking around the island. It is about one mile around. They also reportedly have babysitting. Meals include dishes made of crayfish, the local specialty. There is also a craft shop. Costs are very reasonable, around \$30 per person per night including meals, parking, boat access, etc.



Bushara was created as a development project by the Canadian development agency and is part of a larger regional economic development scheme. If you don't wish to take your car over the border, you can leave it at the Rwanda border crossing in Gating, walk across to the Uganda side, and take a taxi for 20,000 Uganda schillings (about \$12) right to the boat dock.

Book ahead, as it is popular: tel. 077-464585. They have an email address but I don't recommend using it for reservations as it may only be checked sporadically. Their web site www.acts.ca/lbdc has more information and pictures.

~ Doug Teschner

ADOPT A SELF-HELP PROJECT in RWANDA



American employees and their family members, and Rwandan employees of the US mission, are invited to adopt a Self-Help project. The Ambassador has a self-help fund, which is used to provide assistance to small, community-based projects throughout Rwanda. The Economic Section administers the fund with assistance from USAID.

The Economic Section is looking for Americans and Rwandan mission employees to adopt a project. This is a good opportunity for Americans to travel outside of Kigali and meet people in the communities. At minimum, volunteers would visit their projects every three months—with an FSN and Embassy driver—and file brief progress reports with the Economic Section. Volunteers are also encouraged to provide advice and other assistance (not financial) to the projects when necessary. Following is a list of approved Self-Help projects for 2004.

If you are interested in adopting a project, please contact Carey McIntosh at the American Embassy - 505 601 ext. 3258 as soon as possible. Projects will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

FY-04 Self-Help Projects

American Embassy Kigali Rwanda

Twisungane

Cyangugu Province

- Expansion of pig-raising project

Dukundeyezu Bahinzi-Borozi

Ruhengeri Province

- Expansion of rabbit-raising project

Service Social Kabgayi

Gitarama Province

- Finish a farm to support social services

AFCA

Kibuye Province

- Construction of a workshop for project making energy-saving stoves in clay

AFIRPEBU

Cyangugu Province

- Equipment and rehabilitation of buildings for training center

Abasangirangendo

Umutara Province

- Buy cows for women's association

Abishyizehamwe mu Bikorwa

Kigali Rurale Province

- Provide goats to agricultural association

ESIM

Butare Province

- Finish construction of classrooms at Muslim secondary school

APROPEBU

Ruhengeri Province

- Purchase of a grain mill in support of pig-raising project

Dufatanye

Butare Province

- Construction of a carpentry workshop (association members include de-mobilized soldiers)

Twizerane

Gisenyi Province

- Purchase of a grain mill in support of training school for literacy and handicrafts

Sœurs Bernardines

Kigali Ville

- Construction of a water reservoir in support of a girls' dormitory

This and That

Some interesting Web Sites:



<http://www.internet4classrooms.com/on-line2.htm>

Although this website is geared for teachers, it's a great resource for anyone who wishes to learn more about technology. There are many free tutorials available that will take you, step by step, through different types of applications. Learn shortcuts and things you didn't even know were there, to allow you to be more comfortable with using the computer.

<http://www.soniacoleman.com>



This is a special website dedicated to PowerPoint. It has tutorials, free downloads and templates to make a presentation extra interesting. Learn so much more about using PowerPoint.



<http://www.eiu.edu/~mediasrv/ie/menu.html>

We use Internet Explorer all the time. Here's a free tutorial that will help you get the most out of working with the internet. Sharpen your skills and make your time more productive.

The following site is excellent for free clipart to spruce up papers or presentations.

<http://webclipart.miningco.com/library/cos/blarb1.htm>

DID YOU KNOW? The word "Kigali" in Kinyarwanda means "big".

Community Happenings

BLAK BLU ZUNGU



'Put on your dancin' shoes and spread the news, Blak Blu Zungu returns to

**Club VIP
(next to New Cadillac) on
Thursday, Sept. 30.**

Kigali's premier blues'n'soul band
kick off around 21.30h.

Admission FRW1500.

It's only rock'n'roll but we like it!

Big is beautiful!

What's big, noisy and fun? A rollercoaster?
Maybe. Blak Blu Zungu? Definitely!

Having recently played the BBC wrap-up party for 'Shooting Dogs', Kigali's biggest and best musical combo is back in action on **Thursday, September 30th at Club VIP**, for another barnstorming evening of blues'n'soul, rock'n'roll.

Formed twelve months ago, BBZ consists of twelve musicians from all over the globe: Rwanda, England, Germany, Holland, Canada, Uganda, Belgium, USA, you name it. .

So what's the secret to their success? Team coach Mickey Zungu offers this analysis:

"We first met on Planet Zungu in the Funk Nebula. It's just like earth, except you won't hear Celine Dion on the radio. Everyone listens to James Brown. When our spaceship landed

in Kigali, there was a lack of hard-drivin' blues, soul, and rock. So we wrote a lot of songs that are now famous all over the world. Well, actually, we borrowed them"

And the name, Blak Blu Zungu?

"Black folks playing Blues with muzungus. A little green man told us, in a dream"

What's the future hold for you?

"To win the Funk Cup"

Any message for those who don't believe you?

"Be there or be a triangle"

Blak Blu Zungu at Club VIP, next to New Cadillac, Sept. 30th. Kick off is around 21.00h
Admission FRW1500.

Put on your dancin' shoes....

~ Leonard Mutagoma

The Kigali Hash House Harriers

Kigali Hash House Harriers is a group of expats and Rwandans, including men and women of all ages, who meet every Saturday to get some exercise, visit various corners of Kigali and Rwanda and enjoy post-exercise refreshment and the company of others. We accommodate both runners and walkers. Our normal meeting time is 4 pm but times may change according to Hash location. The weekly fee is 1500 francs, which covers water, Fanta and beer.

Upcoming Hashes:

Hash 428 Sept 25 - Julie 'Flying Horse' -
Rwesero Beach, Lac Muhazi

Hash 429 Oct 2 - Peter White Hash to celebrate his 100th

For details contact

Doug Teschner - 08560729

dteschnerrwanda@yahoo.com

Tony Lucassen - 08531918

tonylucassennl@hotmail.com

Michael Rudiak - 08305896

rudiak.enzmann@rwanda1.com

Mike McRory - 08305277

mikemcr@cftb.org.rw



Embassy Dart Night for all Ex-pats Tonight September 23, 7:00 pm At the American Club

**Beer, wine, soft drinks
available.
Drop by and play a game.**

We need a fourth.

And a third. And a second table.

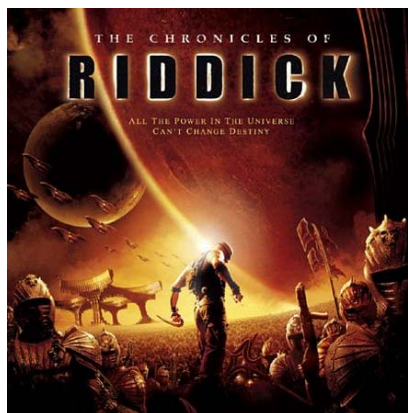
Anyone for Bridge?



Recreational bridge players looking for others willing to play. Or, people willing to learn to play.

Tolerance and good humor more important than skill and enthusiasm.

**Contact Regan Whitworth,
rwhitworth@usaid.gov**



September 24, 7:00 pm
American Club
The Chronicles of Riddick (PG-13)

Movie Night

Riddick has spent the last 5 years on the move among worlds on the outskirts of the galaxy, eluding mercenaries bent on collecting the price on his head. Finding himself captured on planet Helion, his efforts to free himself lead him to the Necromonger command ship where he is pitted against the Lord Marshal in a battle with possibly the fate of all beings hanging in the balance.

Next Week - VAN Helsing

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

*Embassy of the United States of America
Kigali-Rwanda*

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: 04-16

NOTE: All ordinarily resident applicants must have the required work and/or residency permits allowing work in Rwanda before they can be considered.

OPEN TO: Appointable Eligible Family Members (AEFMs) and American Citizens (AMCIT) residents. Current employees serving a probationary period are not eligible to apply.

POSITION: **DCM Secretary, FP-08.**

OPENING DATE: July 01, 2004

CLOSING DATE: Until a qualified applicant is found.

WORK HOURS: Full time, 40 hours/week.

SALARY: FP-08, to be confirmed by Washington.

The U.S. Embassy in Kigali is seeking an American citizen Appointable Eligible Family Member (AEFM) or an AMCIT resident for a limited appointment in the position of DCM Secretary.

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION

The incumbent performs clerical and administrative assistance and reports directly to the Deputy Chief of Mission and sometimes acts as back up to the Ambassador's OMS.

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties and responsibilities is available in the Human Resources office.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

NOTE: All applicants are required to meet the following qualifications.

1. U.S. citizenship required.
2. U.S. high school diploma required.
3. Fluency in English required.
4. Basic computer literacy (Microsoft Word) required.
5. Must be eligible to receive a U.S. Government Security Clearance.

SELECTION PROCESS

When equally qualified, Appointable Eligible Family members and U.S. Veterans will be given preference over other candidates. Therefore, it is essential that all candidates address the above requirements in the application.

ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA

- Management will consider nepotism/conflict of interest, budget, and visa status in determining successful candidacy.
- Applicant must be eligible to obtain Top Secret Security Clearance.

DEFINITION

AEFM: A U.S. citizen spouse or U.S. citizen child as referred to in 6 FAM 111.3, paragraph R(1), who is at least 18 years of age and who is on the travel orders of a U.S. citizen foreign or civil service employee or military service member permanently assigned to or stationed at a U.S. Foreign Service post or establishment abroad, and who does not receive a U.S. Government annuity or pension based on a career in the U.S. civil, foreign, or uniformed services.

Ordinarily Resident (OR): A citizen of the host country or a citizen of another country who has shifted the main residency focus to the host country and has the required work and/or residency permits for employment in country.

Not-Ordinarily Resident (NOR): Typically NORs are AEFMs and EFM of FS, GS, and uniform service members who are on the travel orders and under Chief of Mission authority, or other personnel having diplomatic privileges and immunities.

TO APPLY

Interested candidates for this position should submit the following:

- A. Application for Federal Employment (OF-612).
- B. Documentation (e.g., essays, certificates, awards) that address the minimum requirements of the position listed above.

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO

Human Resources Officer
American Embassy
B.P. 28 Kigali

POINT OF CONTACT

Javan_Kajyambere
Tel: 505601/2/3
Fax: 572128

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Fax: 572 128

Deadline: Wednesday noon

Cashier Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
9-11 am, 2-3:30 pm

Friday: 9-11 am

CLOSED TUESDAY

Duty Officers List

Christophe Tocco	09/21 to 09/28
Jeff Hanson	09/28 to 10/05
Andy Karas	10/05 to 10/12
Nan Mattingly	10/12 to 10/19

Duty Officer number is 0830 0345

Classifieds

Diplomatic employees and Personal Service Contractors with USAID and CDC must obtain permission from the Management Officer to list any classified items.

SEEKING TRUSTWORTHY, RELIABLE HOUSE PERSON/COOK who speaks English, French and Kinyarwanda, and loves dogs. Please call 0818 0216. 10/07

LAPTOP COMPUTER - asking price \$1250
Toshiba Satellite 1415-S173, Floppy Drive + DVD-ROM/CD-RW, 15.0" diagonal screen, 30GB HDD and 265MB Ram. Contact wshapiro@hotmail.com
OR 250-08464620 10/07

FOR SALE - Peugeot 306 diesel, white/cd plates) 1868 cc, 2000 model, CD/radio, air-conditioning, sunroof, black interior. Single owner, sparingly used, excellent off-road, 22.000 km. Reinforced shock absorbers, protected sump. Price - 9.000 € Call Alphonse on 0852 72 66 (en français) 10/07

'87 VOLVO STATIONWAGON - new tires, belts, battery in 2003. Well maintained. \$2,500 OBO 0830 5128 OR 0830 0354 OR bresciark@state.gov 9/30

GARDENER AVAILABLE

An experienced gardener seeks ongoing part-time work, and is available from 7:00 am-1:00 pm daily (also on weekends). For more information, please call 501-265 or 0830-1853. 9/30

BIG EMPTY HOUSE - HELP US FILL IT

Looking for all types of furniture and knickknacks. Beds, couches, chairs, dining room sets, artwork, rugs, lamps, shelves, candle holders, frames, power tools...everything. Please email mars@swarmdesign.com if you have anything for sale or need to get rid of. Digital photos would be great. 9/30

SUZUKI FOR SALE - 4,000 Euro's Contact Francesca P. 0868 4976 9/30

ROOMS FOR RENT - 2 rooms available in a house in Kicukiro to share with three Canadians already living there. Contact Maia - 0845 1748 or maia_seaden@yahoo.com 9/23

ENGLISH TEACHER NEEDED - 1 hour per week for elementary school students. Contact Kigalinewsletter@state.gov